

Middletown Commission on the Arts

Minutes, September 26, 2012

Present

Cassandra Day (vice-chair)
Jenny Hawkins Lecce (sec.)
Joyce Kirkpatrick
Bob Santangelo (council)
Franca Biales
Fran Ganguli
Lea Tomaszewski (7:32)
Charlotte McCoid (7:38)

Also Present

Stephan Allison, staff

Absent

Richard Kamins
David Davis
Lee Godburn (chair)
Barbara Arafah
Linda Salafia (council)

Call to order

Commissioner Cassandra Day called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. at 100 Riverview Center, Suite 140.

Public session: None present

Minutes from July 25, 2012

Motion to approve by Joyce, Fran seconded. Carried with an abstention from Bob Santangelo.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the meeting agenda as written by Jenny, Franca seconded. Carried unanimously.

Remarks from the Chair

No remarks this week.

Old Business:

Budget Report – no report

Program Update

- a) Arts Stakeholders Group: ongoing progress with Middletown Remix. Next meeting is the last Monday of October at noon, Green Street Arts Center. The October Arts Calendar will include a QR that will lead the viewer to information on the Middletown Remix program.
- b) Arts & Creative Industries Council (Chamber of Commerce) executive committee met in August. The Council will now meet quarterly.

Website – Arts2Go.org: October public launch will include new refinements and a more streamlined front page. During mid-October, Downtown Business District will be holding a prix-fixe restaurant week and the website packets (cards, magnets) will be distributed throughout the downtown during this time.

Other: Franca Biales stated the Open Air Market was terrific. Repair of the Seal, the repair is currently on hold, and is now included in the city arts collection. There is an estimate for repair on file with the city, although funds have not yet been provided for the cleaning and repair. The commissioners felt that this is something that ought to be attended to quickly. Joyce made a motion that after commission discussion, and hearing from Jenny, the dangers of further deterioration of the city seal painting, the commission feels strongly that the painting should be cleaned, repaired and restored without delay. Fran seconded. Carried unanimously. Jenny will write letter. Rooster work on paper still needs repair

and Charlotte made a motion to have the Rooster artwork on paper be brought to Ursel's Web for an estimate. Franca seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Public Art Committee:

- a) Catalogue of Public Art Collection: finished and printed, discussion to resume in October.
- b) MCAAAA 2013 – ongoing, the 2012 work is currently with the artist.
- c) Display Area Dedication: ongoing. To be coordinated with 40th Anniversary activities, date to be determined.
- d) Meeting minutes of July 31, 2012. Charlotte will be writing the texts for two plaques, one for the WPA Seal and one for the crocheted flag. Charlotte and Joyce will present an updated list for plaques and for those pieces that don't yet have a plaque.

Planning & Projects Committee: ongoing

- a) 40th Anniversary - ongoing.

Nominating Committee:

- a) Review of Bylaws: ongoing.

Other: (Publicity Committee, Kids Arts Committee, Archive Committee): ongoing.

New Business:

September Category 2 & 3 Grants: Panel for October interviews will be Lea, Jenny, Fran and Franca will act as alternate. The interviews will be held beginning at 6:15 at 100 Riverview Center, Suite 140 on Tuesday, October 9th.

DECD-COA Arts Catalyzing Placemaking Grant Application: The arts office may be applying for a grant to use on developing and expanding the arts2go website. Carlos Roche is the current webmaster. The new State method of distributing funds restricts municipalities from applying on their own. For the grant to expand Kids Arts program from half to full day, the city arts office will partner with both NEAR, Inc. and Oddfellows. The grant request is for \$50k per year, for two years (\$100,000) and will substantially expand the program to meet current demand (from 30 to 90 kids in all sessions). Joyce moved that the commission move that we approve the DECD-COA grant application, in partnership with Oddfellows and NEAR, Inc., for the KidsArts grant. Barbara seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Miscellaneous: Charlotte reported that Middletown High School was selected for the Connecticut National Christmas Tree for the US Capital holiday trees. The large plastic globe ornaments will be painted in October and sent out early in November. The theme for the decorations is "Still Revolutionary". Jenny reported that Middletown High School Marching Band and the MHS Choirs will be marching/performing at the Presidential inauguration in January 2013.

Adjournment:

Bob moved to adjourn at 8:55p.m., seconded by Lea. Carried. The MCA will next meet for its regular monthly meeting on October 24, 2012 in Room 208 of the Municipal Building.

Announcements

No announcements.

Respectfully submitted
Jenny Hawkins Lecce